

MASON, NEW HAMPSHIRE
State General Election
Held at the Mason Town Hall, November 6, 2018

Moderator Catherine Schwenk declared the polls open at 11:00 am. There were 1,000 voters on the checklist. A total of 699 residents voted, representing a 68 percent turnout. There were 57 absentee ballots cast and 28 newly registered voters.

The Moderator expressed her appreciation to Wally Brown for setting up the facilities for this election.

In accordance with information received from David Scanlon, Deputy Secretary of State, "Observers may view and photograph the election results but shall not handle any election materials."

At 11:10 am the Moderator announced that absentee ballots would be opened in accordance with RSA 659:50. Absentee ballots were subsequently recorded at 1:00 pm per RSA 659:49.

Ballot clerks were Pauline Bergeron, Kenneth (Ken) Greene, Lauren Mann and Sandy LeClair.

Kevin M. Bannon, Forensic Financial Examiner from the Dept. of State Bureau of Securities Regulation, came to inspect the procedures being carried out by the town during the election. During his time there we had two incidences where we looked to him for assistance. One was when Town Clerk Kathy Valliere from Greenville came in with an absentee ballot that was sent in error to a Mason resident from her office with a Greenville ballot enclosed. A call was made to the Secretary of State's office and it was determined to reject the ballot and have Kathy write an explanation on it as to what happened.

The other was that the AVS tablet sent to us from the state was not working properly. It was printing the filled-in circles way out of whack on the paper (too far up) where it could not be determined voter intent. There was nothing more we could do with it during the election, resulting in 2 spoiled ballots.

The 2017 legislative session made changes to the Voter ID Law relative to domicile for voting purposes [known as SB 3, becoming effective 9/8/17]. Under the law, people registering within 30 days of an election have to show some kind of proof that they're "domiciled" in the town where they're trying to vote. For this election you will be asked to provide a form of photo ID, and if registering on election day, proof of domicile. Various forms of photo ID might include...

- A driver's license issued by any state or federal government
- Non-driver ID card issued by the NH DMV or motor vehicle agency of another state
- Photo ID card for voting identification only issued by NH DMV (RSA 260:21)
- A US Armed Forces identification card
- A US passport or passcard
- NH student ID card
- Verification of the voter's identity by a moderator or supervisor of the checklist or clerk of a town, ward or city (not a ballot clerk). If any person authorized to challenge a voter does so under this provision, the voter shall be required to fill out a challenged voter affidavit before obtaining a ballot.
- An acceptable photo ID must have an expiration date or date of issuance.

Voters who did not have any of the above ID were requested to check in at the voter ID table and sign a Challenged Voter Affidavit. There were no affidavits.

The Moderator expressed her gratitude to all of the town officials and volunteers who make this election process go smoothly. She announced that no counters from the same household are to sit together at the same table during the counting process.

The following ballot counters were administered the oath of office: Linda Cotter-Cranston, Garth Fletcher, Liz Fletcher, Devan Fletcher, Lauren Mann, Joseph Baldi, Charlie Moser, Pete McGinnity, Bernie O'Grady, Doug Whitbeck, Connie Lacasse, Tom Mitchell, Louise Lavoie, Darrell Scott, Dave Morrison, Bruce Mann, Pam McGinnity and Carolyn Place.

The New Hampshire State General Election Results are as follows...

Governor

Chris Sununu	407
Molly Kelly	269
Jilletta Jarvis	112

Representatives in Congress

Steven Negron	372
Ann Kuster 11	303
Justin O'Donnell	119

Executive Councilor

Dave Wheeler	396
Debora Pignatelli	268
Brian Chabot	118

State Senator

Kevin Avard	382
Melanie Levesque	301

State Representatives

Jack Flanagan	355
John Lewicke	380
Brett Hall	279
Brian Rater	258

Sheriff

James Hardy	381
Bill Barry	259
Aaron Day	131

County Attorney

Dennis Hogan	385
Michael Conlon	278

County Treasurer

David Fredette	402
William Bryk	267

Register of Deeds

Edward Sapienza	387
Edward Sapienza	268

Register of Probate

Joseph Levasseur	385
Elizabeth Ropp	287

County Commissioner

Robert Rowe	397
Steve Spratt	272

There were two Constitutional Amendment Questions on the ballot, proposed by the 2018 General Court.

1. “Are you in favor of amending article 8 of the first part of the constitution to read as follows: [Art.] 8. [Accountability of Magistrates and Officers; Public’s Right to Know.] All power residing originally in, and being derived from, the people, all the magistrates and officers of government are their substitutes and agents, and at all times accountable to them. Government, therefore, should be open, accessible, accountable and responsive. To that end, the public’s right of access to governmental proceedings and records shall not be unreasonably restricted. The public also has a right to an orderly, lawful, and accountable government. Therefore, any individual taxpayer eligible to vote in the State, shall have standing to petition the Superior Court to declare whether the State or political subdivision in which the taxpayer resides has spent, or has approved spending, public funds in violation of a law, ordinance, or constitutional provision. In such a case, the taxpayer shall not have to demonstrate that his or her personal rights were impaired or prejudiced beyond his or her status as a taxpayer. However, this right shall not apply when the challenged governmental action is the subject of a judicial or administrative decision from which there is a right of appeal by statute or otherwise by the parties to that proceeding.”
(Passed by the N.H. House 309 Yes 9 No; Passed by State Senate 22 Yes 2 No) CACR 15

Yes 514 / No 118

2. “Are you in favor of amending the first part of the constitution by inserting after article 2-a a new article to read as follows: [Art.] 2-b. [Right to Privacy.] An individual's right to live free from governmental intrusion in private or personal information is natural, essential, and inherent.”
(Passed by the N.H. House 235 Yes 96 No; Passed by State Senate 15 Yes 9 No) CACR 16

Yes 538 / No 109

The Moderator declared the polls closed at 7:05 pm. Ballot counting began at 7:40 pm and concluded at 9:15 pm.

As a followup to the election, a representative from the Secretary of State’s office came on November 14, 2018 to pick up all ballots cast by the Town of Mason, including absentee ballots, for a recount of certain offices. These ballots will not be returned to the Town, but will be sent to Archives for storage.



Debra A. Morrison, Town Clerk